

The Ontario Argus
County Official Paper

An Independent Newspaper

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HIGHWAYS MUST BE PROTECTED

Unless some drastic action is taken, and that at once, the people of Oregon will find that they will have a system of state highways to pay for, and no highways to use.

That the state highway commission and its engineering force realize this fact is beyond dispute and they will undoubtedly do all in their power to protect the work which they have accomplished. But they cannot get the results desired unless they are given the earnest cooperation of the public.

The chief enemies of the highways are the truck-hogs. The men who are the expense of the public are transporting immense loads on trucks for their private gain. This must absolutely be stopped or Oregon's highways will be torn to pieces ere the contractors who constructed them leave the job.

Truck men seem to think they are a privileged class; that they can go onto the highways built at the expense of the automobile driver who uses a touring car, and tear that road to pieces on one trip. In fact one big overloaded truck, can in wet weather destroy more highways than the licenses of one hundred trucks will pay for.

It is so manifestly unfair to the public that real effective action must be taken or the day of good roads is passed. The public will demand that a change be made and that trucks either obey the laws of the state, and common decency and consideration for the men and women who pay for the roads or trucks will be legislated off the highways entirely.

The big firms and corporations whose trucks are in a large measure to blame for the rising public sentiment against this abuse of public property should immediately take cognizance of the sentiment and is being directed against them and mend their ways. Solid tire trucks carrying big loads must go sooner or later. The sooner the better for the good of the highways of Oregon.

ADEQUATE EDUCATION

To the westward of Ontario there reside 18 children for whom no school is available save that located here in the city. The children are more than two miles from the school and yet they live within the confines of the school district.

To the south of the Oregon Eastern railroad track there is a section or two of land that is also within the school district where are several families with children, and they live nearly three miles from the schools of the district and have no means of reaching the schools unless it is provided by their parents at a cost that is out of proportion

ANNOUNCEMENT

DOCTOR J. C. WOODWARD, OCUList, WOODWARD BUILDING, FAYETTE, IDAHO desires to announce that he will be at his office every afternoon for the purpose of FITTING GLASSES. Arrangements may be made for evening appointments. Eyes will be examined FREE OF CHARGE. Office equipment includes every modern instrument. FIT and SATISFACTION guaranteed.

AN ABSTRACT IS A HISTORY OF LAND TITLE

An abstract of title is a short methodically written history of the title to a designated tract of land. It consists of a summary of the material parts of every recorded instrument of conveyance which affects the title, together with a statement of all liens and incumbrances to which the same is subject.

The object of an abstract is to afford the prospective purchaser or mortgagee of real estate a convenient means of ascertaining the condition of the title.

The cautious man will not accept a deed or a mortgage on real estate unless it is accompanied by an abstract prepared by a reliable firm.

MALHEUR TITLE AND ABSTRACT COMPANY
Vale, Oregon

for individual families. The property values of the district of course are to be found within the city limits, to a marked degree; but these values are created by the fact that there is an agricultural region about it. Take the farms away from Ontario and substitute raw sage brush lands for miles in every direction and there would be little of value here, for there would be no reason for business houses and residences in the city.

Now the question arises, how can these children be given adequate education facilities? The one or two room, ungraded school now serves the need. It cannot do the work, that is all there is to it. No one who knows the educational needs of the day will say that it does.

The thing that must be done is to consolidate the school districts which can conveniently be grouped into one district and provide means for transporting the children to the schools, so that the children of the country will have the same advantages as those of the city.

This can readily be done in this region where there are comparatively good roads leading all directions. It is the next step in advancement of conditions in this section, for such action is necessary. Ultimately this will cost the public less than the present system.

While the present one and two room schools with teachers who, in many cases, have had inferior training and only slight experience, may satisfy some of the families living in the country, they will not do so long. There will be a demand in the country for bigger buildings and better buildings, better teachers and more of them. The rural schools will be introducing departments just as the city schools have now.

What will be the result. Within just a few miles, just a few minutes in these days of good roads and motor transportation, there will be duplicated buildings and departments that each cost large sums. The public will be paying more than it should, the taxpayers will be burdened, and a reaction against education will naturally result.

To secure efficiency in the school system should be the aim and purpose of those interested in the welfare of the coming generations. Now is the time to consider the problem that is before the public.

STATE INCOME TAXES

Every now and then the suggestion is made in the public prints by someone who is thinking about the present problem of taxation and the inequalities that exist under the present system, that the state should adopt the income tax as a method of securing revenue. And gradually the suggestion is receiving wider support. Apparently it is one of the things that seems destined to result.

There is a reason for this condition. It is to be found in the fact that at present, without knowing it, Oregon has adopted a single tax basis. Most of the taxes in Oregon are raised directly from land. Of course we have the personal property tax still, but only the visible property is thus reached, and everyone knows that there is a vast store of wealth that is not touched by the hand of the tax collector.

Since mortgages, notes, cash and other securities are in most cases tax exempt, and few of the taxpayers ever return any of this intangible wealth for taxation purpose, even if it is not exempt, there is a growing unrest evident among those who are feeling the burden of taxation most, the land owners. It is right that they should feel aggrieved. They have a real grievance. They are carrying more than their share of the load.

The American public some day will awaken to the fact that the tax slacker is as dangerous an individual as the slacker of war times, and the same sort of treatment will be accorded him. Ways will be found to make those who have escaped taxation bear their share of the burden. The sooner it is done the better.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF MUSIC CLASSES

Mrs. C. F. Cox, wishes to announce, that she will begin her music class, September 1, and is prepared to give credits in violin and piano. She is a graduate of Iowa College in violin and piano, and has done post graduate work in the American conservatory in Chicago. Prices for piano are reduced from \$1 to 50c per lesson. She has been appointed by the Sherwood School of Music to give a four year's conservatory course to anyone desiring same. For further information, Phone 60-J. Adv.38-42

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